Board of Fisheries which had endorsed the draft National Fisheries Policy statement.

The objectives, as laid down in the draft National Fisheries Policy are :

(i) Conservation of aquatic resources and genetic diversity;

(ii) enhancing production of fish and the productivity of fishermen, fish farmers and fishing industry;

(iii) generating employment for the coastal and rural poor;

(iv) improving the socio-economic conditions of the traditional fishermen and fish farmers; and

(v) augmenting export of fish and marine products taking into account the need for responsible and sustainable fisheries.

The draft Policy provides for development of marine fisheries, inland fisheries, aquaculture, infrastructure including marketing facilities, fisheries cooperatives, manpower research and training, extension, credit facilities and insurance cover over the remaining period of the Eighth Five Year Plan and during the Ninth Five Year Plan.

(d) The fish production from the marine sector in the country has increased from 25.75 lakh tonnes in 1992-93 to 27.07 lakh tonnes in 1995-96. The contribution from the deep sea sector out of this is only about 30,000 tonnes and the remaining production is from the traditional and small-scale mechanised sector. There is, thus, no adverse impact of deep-sea fishing on the traditional fishermen of the coastal areas.

*[Translation]*

**Infrastructural Facilities in Border Areas**

2520. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering to provide the infrastructural facilities in the border areas of the country including along Nepal and China;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of criteria fixed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c). Border Area Development Programme was started in the Seventh Plan with the objective of balanced development of sensitive areas in the Western Region of the country, through provision of infrastructure facilities and promotion of a sense of security among the local population. The programme has been continued during the Eighth Plan (1992-97) with extended coverage to the Eastern States which have international border with Bangladesh. Area specific schemes which are designed to take care of problems typical to the border areas are only taken up under this programme. These are drawn up keeping in view the factors such as remoteness, accessibility, perception of threat from across the border, problems like smuggling, infiltration, subversion etc. and inadequacies relating to provision of essential needs. Individual schemes located in each state is approved by a Screening Committee at the State level.

**Dacoity in Train**

2521. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any complaint/FIR was lodged by passengers of Train No. 4055, Brahmputra Express regarding dacoity in that train on October 9, 1996;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of cash and valuables looted by the dacoits alongwith the number of persons injured in the incident;

(d) the reasons for not providing the First Aid immediately to the injured passengers;

(e) the compensation provided to the affected passengers;

(f) whether the FIR in this regard was lodged after ten hours of the incident, and

(g) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (g). The registration, investigation, detection and prevention of crime in the trains is the responsibility of the Government Railway Police (G.R.P.) which functions under the control of respective State Governments/UT Administrations. Information relating to train-wise crimes, FIRs lodged at local levels, etc. is not maintained by the Central Government.

*[Translation]*

**Regional Offices of CPCB**

2522. SHRI LALIT ORAON : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to bring about structural changes in the Central Pollution Control Board to make the Environment Protection Scheme more effective;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to open more regional offices of the Board;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and